Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the only full paragraph on page 9 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring to the embodiment of the invention shown in FIG. 2, first roll 14 is a cot roll and second roll 16 is a cutter roll. First roll or cot roll 14 can include an elongated cylinder, roll or bar 56 mounted to a shaft 58 longitudinally centered on an axis of rotation 60 of the cot roll. Supported by bar 56 is an annular cot or tire 62 with a plurality of slots 64 spaced apart about the outer periphery or circumference of the cot roll 14, defining the first severing structure. In one nonlimiting embodiment, cot 62 may be formed from a material such as an elastomer, a natural rubber, a synthetic rubber, polyurethane and the like. In another nonlimiting embodiment, cot roll 14 includes a substantially homogeneous, relatively hard material having integrally-formed slots 64. For example, cot roll 14 can be a gear-like structure formed from a metal. Second roll or cutter roll 16 includes an elongated cylinder, roll or bar 66 mounted to a shaft 68 longitudinally centered on an axis of rotation 70 of the cutter roll. Cutter roll 16 includes a plurality of elongated structures 72, such as cutting blades or gear-like teeth, spaced apart about the outer periphery or circumference of the cutter roll, thereby defining the second severing structure. In the case of cutting blades, the blades can have any configuration required to form the chopped strands, e.g. a single or double bevel blade. The plurality of slots 64 correspond to the plurality of elongated structures 72 such that, with a predetermined spacing 41 and upon rotation of the rolls 14 and 16, the slots and elongated structures cooperate to sever any strands 20 (FIG. 1) positioned between the rolls. The plurality of slots 64 and the plurality of elongated structures 72 can be correspondingly positioned to extend across the respective rolls 14 and 16 in a longitudinal

direction, parallel to the rotational axes ~~62~~ 60 and 70, or at some other angle with respect to the longitudinal direction that promotes severing of strands 20. For example and without limiting the present invention, slots 64 and corresponding elongated structures 72 can extend along rolls 14 and 16, respectively in a coordinating helical pattern. The desired chopped strand length will determine the actual spacing of the slots 64 in roll 14 and structures 72 in roll 16.